



Museum der Moderne
Salzburg

Press Release

Camera Austria International

Laboratory for Photography and Theory

24 November 2018—3 March 2019

Mönchsberg [4]

A major international photography exhibition at the Museum der Moderne Salzburg pays tribute to the pioneering achievements of Camera Austria and the vital role it has played in the Austrian photography scene for over four decades.

Salzburg, 17 October 2018: Featuring works by no fewer than thirty-seven photographers from eleven nations whose art was showcased, publicized, and discussed at Camera Austria in the past decades, this exhibition offers an unprecedented retrospective of the gallery-and-journal's activities. The diverse conceptual and thematic approaches of the renowned artists included in the show exemplify Camera Austria's foci and add up to a panorama of the evolution and dissemination of fine art photography in Austria since the 1970s. Divided into eight chapters, the exhibition presents artists associated with Camera Austria in its early years side by side with contemporary positions. Combining dialogical engagement with a focus on continuity, this arrangement generates visual discourses around photography that can activate aspects of the organization's history for present-day concerns. "The exchange of ideas with the artists themselves has been central to Camera Austria's work from the outset. Over time, its team built a large international network, and needless to say, we can only spotlight selections. In designing the exhibition, we stuck by Camera Austria's principle of displaying works of photography in complete thematic series. As a result, the presentation includes almost 550 individual pictures," curator Christiane Kuhlmann notes. Christine Frisinghelli, a cofounder of Camera Austria and visiting curator of the exhibition, adds that "the show also draws attention to Camera Austria's institutional evolution as an artist-run project since its establishment in 1974. The international visibility of its work grew continually: from 1979 until 1997, annual 'Symposia on Photography' held in conjunction with the steirischer herbst festival complemented its exhibition programming. Since 1980, the journal *Camera Austria International* has been the primary medium for the debate around photography sparked by Camera Austria's undertakings."

The symposia, exhibitions, and publications in *Camera Austria International* provided unique platforms connecting the international and Austrian photography scenes. At the same time, the organization opened a "window" on the world early on, alerting local photographers to what was happening outside Austria while conversely drawing international attention to their work. In this sense, the exhibition also highlights an important chapter in the history of art and photography in Austria, which took a different course than, say, in Germany, the Netherlands, or the United States. What was most sorely lacking in the 1970s were academic institutions that offered training in photography. Public collections were largely inaccessible to historians of photography; funding was scarce and slow to grow and it took time for the debate over photography in the art context to catch on. The untiring efforts of Camera Austria's founders Manfred Willmann and Christine Frisinghelli since the 1970s to put together exhibitions, symposia, and publications and

Press

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initiate discussions of Austrian and international photography were instrumental in this regard. To this day, Camera Austria is an indispensable platform for debate, gallery, publishing house, archive, library, and venue hosting workshops and symposia.

With works by Robert Adams, Nobuyoshi Araki, Lewis Baltz, Sabine Bitter & Helmut Weber, Anna and Bernhard Blume, Petar Dabac, William Eggleston, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Seiichi Furuya, Luigi Ghirri, David Goldblatt, Nan Goldin, Sanja Iveković, Sven Johne, Lamia Joreige, Annette Kelm, Iosif Király, Joachim Koester, Zofia Kulik, Darcy Lange, Tatiana Lecomte, Susan Meiselas, Zanele Muholi, Peter Piller, Walid Raad, Einar Schleef, Jörg Schlick, Michael Schmidt, Michael Schuster & Hartmut Skerbisch, Allan Sekula, Ahlam Shibli, Lieko Shiga, Nicole Six & Paul Petritsch, Jo Spence, Christian Wachter, Manfred Willmann, Tobias Zielony

Curators: Christiane Kuhlmann, Curator Photography and Media Art, with Christina Penetsdorfer, Assistant Curator

Guest Curator: Christine Frisinghelli

In cooperation with Camera Austria

A publication accompanying the exhibition will be released by Spector Books.

Publication

Camera Austria International. Laboratory for Photography and Theory

Edited by Thorsten Sadowsky for the Museum der Moderne Salzburg

With texts by Reinhard Braun, Christine Frisinghelli, Toshiharu Ito, Christiane Kuhlmann, Maren Lübbke-Tidow, Sandra Križić Roban, Roberta Valtorta and a foreword by Thorsten Sadowsky

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€ 35,00

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Events

Friday, 23 November 2018, 7.30 p.m.

Exhibition Talk with Joachim Koester, Artist, New York, US, and Reinhard Braun, Artistic Director, Camera Austria, Editor, Camera Austria International, Graz
In English

Wednesday, 16 January 2019, 6.30 p.m.

Exhibition Talk with Susan Meiselas, Artist, New York, US, and Christine Frisinghelli, Guest Curator
In English

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Visitor information

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Hours: Tue to Sun 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed 10 a.m. –8 p.m.

Admission Mönchsberg

Regular €8.00

Reduced €6.00

Families €12.00

Groups €7.00

Tickets with reduced Mönchsberg lift tariff available at the bottom station.